

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 HAMBUR 00894 061646Z

61

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 IGA-01 SY-05 EB-07 /086 W

----- 079557

R 061521Z JUN 75

FM AMCONSUL HAMBURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3423

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMCONSUL AMSTERDAM

AMCONSUL ROTTERDAM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE HAMBURG 0894

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD PINR

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE MISAPPROPRIATION OF US GOODS DESTINED FOR
SOUTH VIETNAM

1. POST HAS RECEIVED REPORT FROM LOCAL VIDEO STUDIO OF
AN OFFER TO SELL US MADE GOODS AT A SUBSTANTIAL DISCOUNT MADE
BY A FORMER SOUTH VIETNAMESE DIPLOMAT IN THE NETHERLANDS.
END SUMMARY.

2. POST RECEIVED TELEPHONE CALL ON JUNE 5 FROM WOLFGANG WEBER OF
ELEKTRO-DAUER-SERVICE, VIDEO-FILM-HAMBURG, 2 HAMBURG 50,
LIPPMANNSTRASSE 22. WEBER REPORTED TO US AN OFFER HE HAD
RECEIVED EARLIER THIS WEEK THROUGH AN AMERICAN BUSINESS CONTACT
IN ROTTERDAM TO SELL A WIDE RANGE OF VIDEO TAPE EQUIPMENT AND
MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AT A SUBSTANTIAL DISCOUNT. THE GOODS ARE
BEING OFFERED BY A SOUTH VIETNAMESE WHO APPARENTLY ENJOYED
DIPLOMATIC STATUS IN THE NETHERLANDS PRIOR TO THE FALL OF THE RVN.
THE EQUIPMENT INCLUDES: ONE AVR-1 STUDIO TYPE VIDEO TAPE CONSOLE
WORTH DM 1 MILLION; ONE AVR-2 CONSOLE WOTH DM 250,000;
800 VIDEO TAPES, 3M 400 COLOR TAPES WOTH DM 1,600 EACH;

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 HAMBUR 00894 061646Z

A FULLY EQUIPPED AMBULANCE, AND OTHER GOODS, INCLUDING BLANKETS,

TWO IRON LUNGS, AND AN AUXILIARY RESCUE BOAT. THE TWO CONSOLES WERE OFFERED AT 1/3 VALUE, THE TAPES AT DM 20 EACH AND THE AMBULANCE AT DM 0.35 PER KILOGRAM.

3. WEBER SAID HIS CONTACT, A NATURALIZED AMERICAN NAMED PAL ACKERWALL, WORKS FOR AMPEX IN ROTTERDAM. HE ALSO SAID HE HAD BEEN CALLED LATER BY AN UNKNOWN MAN SPAKING GERMAN WITH AN ASIAN ACCENT WHO REPEATED THE OFFER. ONE OR BOTH OF HIS CONTACTS TOLD HIM THE GOODS ARE STORED IN SHED 23 A OF THE FREE PORT IN ROTTERDAM.

4. WEBER CLAIMS THAT HE TALKED TO A MAN AT AMCONGEN ROTTERDAM WHO SPOKE "EXCELLENT" GERMAN ON JUNE 3 OR 4 ABOUT THIS MATTER. HE ASSERTS THAT THE CONSULATE EMPLOYEE TOLD HIM THAT THIS SOUNDED LIKE AN INTERNATIONAL SCANDAL AND THAT THE CONGEN KNEW ALL ABOUT IT.

5. WEBER AND HIS FIRM ARE UNKNOWN TO US, SO CHIEF OF ECON/COMMERCIAL SECTION VISITED HIM AT HIS OFFICE TODAY. HIS OPERATION, WHICH APPARENTLY INVOLVES MAKING TELEVISION COMMERCIALS AND EDITIING FOR GERMAN TV NETWORKS, APPEARS TO BE QUITE SMALL. WEBER INDICATED HE HAD DECLINED THE OFFER BECAUSE HE ASSUMED THE GOODS HAD BEEN PROVIDED THROUGH US FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AND HAD SOMEHOW BEEN DIVERTED. HOWEVER, HE STRUCK AS A MAN VERY EAGER TO FOCUS ATTENTION UPON HIMSELF. THIS IMPRESSION IS REINFORCED BY FACT THAT HE SAYS HE HAS TOLD MOST OF THE ABOVE STORY TO A CONTACT IN GERMAN TELEVISION (NDR) AND A CONTACT AT WEEKLY MAGAZINE "STERN". HOWEVER, WE HAVE NO REASON TO BELIEVE HE HAS INVENTED STORY AND SOME EASILY VERIFIABLE DETAILS SUGGEST THERE MAY BE SOME SUBSTANCE TO HIS CLAIM. BROGAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SALES, EQUIPMENT, FRAUDS, THEFTS, RECORDINGS, BUSINESS FIRMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ellisoob
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975HAMBUR00894
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750198-1156
From: HAMBURG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750675/aaaacqad.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <14 OCT 2003 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE MISAPPROPRIATION OF US GOODS DESTINED FOR SOUTH VIETNAM
TAGS: ETRD, PINR, NL, US, VS
To: STATE THE HAGUE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006